

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
JUNE 22, 2021 MEETING - 4:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Trammell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 in the Destin City Hall Annex Chambers with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Sandy Trammell
Nikki Johnson
Barbara Telford
Danielle Piper
Brian Liesveld
Leslie Schmidt

Member Absent

Matthew Sweetser

Staff Present

Kim Montgomery City Clerk
Lisa Firth Recreation Director
Ryan Reed Recreation Dept. Supervisor
Michael Burgess, PW Director

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- May 25, 2021

Motion to approve the May 25, 2021, minutes as written was made by Committee member Liesveld with Committee member Piper providing the second. The motion passed 6-0.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **Park Inspections:**

Committee member Johnson reported that one of the lights on Mattie Kelly Pier is loose and in need of being repaired. She also reported that she has been unable to review O'Steen Beach Trail and Norriego Park because of no available parking spaces each time she has tried to access them. And if anyone is willing to go real early in the morning to inspect them they can otherwise, she will inspect them after the busy summer season.

Mrs. Firth reminded the members to please include any memorial plaques they find and their locations.

➤ **Adopt-a-Park/Adopt-a-Bench**

Mrs. Firth spoke of how a similar program is already in place with Adopt-a-Street and how they can piggy-back on its program with the idea of having people volunteer to clean up the city parks. Chairwoman Trammell suggested that everyone think on this and bring their suggestions to implement it at their next meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

Committee member Johnson spoke of how there are many people who frequent the Dog Park and would like to have restrooms and a dog washing station. And she feels this could be included in the beautification of parks work plan item instead of making an entire separate one.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF COMMENTS:

- **Committee member Liesveld** – Briefly spoke of his work plan item to make the approval process for runs/walks in the city easier and want to have a couple of runs/walks and a yearly paddleboard events. He also asked when the entire Dog Park would be reopened noting that the access to the water fountain is the main concern with the heat. Staff provided an update of the status.

- **Committee member Piper** – briefly spoke of her beautification work plan item for the various city parks and mentioned how the reeds that were cut down are starting to grow up again at the Main Street Park.

- **Committee member Schmidt** – Questioned staff what the status is of the cemetery landscaping workplan and staff working with Bobby Wagner. Mrs. Firth informed the members that staff will have to consult with a professional before any tree planting can be considered to ensure there will not be any encroachment with the spaces. And Mr. Wagner has a lot on his plate at the moment.

- **Chairwoman Trammell** – Spoke of how there are still items at Harbor Lane ROW that have not been done that the citizens of the neighborhood spoke of wanting accomplished earlier in the year with the funds that were set aside by Council. One being the hard surface put down for a walkway so the mothers who have babies in the neighborhood can push their strollers closer to the water to watch the sunset. As well as there is a neighbor in a wheelchair who desires to have closer access too. She reiterated to staff that it does not have to be concrete or asphalt, just some sort of material that can be accessed so wheels won't get stuck in the sand, like what is it currently happening. She also reminded staff that there is an agreement by all neighbors that they do not want an internal light installed in the access and they made that clear at the meeting in February, when this was discussed. Emphasizing that there is enough lighting from the neighbor, plus no one is supposed to be in there after dark.

Motion to not install the internal light at the Harbor Lane Beach Access was made by Chairwoman Trammell with Committee member Liesveld providing the second. A roll call vote of 6-0 was taken and the motion passed.

It was agreed to have this placed back on the agenda for an upcoming meeting to discuss further. She also mentioned the need to have the roots and stumps ground down along the trails to the water at the other water accesses in the general vicinity to eliminate a tripping hazard.

- **Staff Comments:**

Mrs. Firth provided the members with the following updates:

- Commercial businesses are causing problems throughout the city at both private and public parks by people operating their business rentals at various locals thought out the city. She explained they are renting out everything from large floating mattresses and paddle boards to waverunners and pontoon boats. As well as people charging fees for lessons in the waterside parks and taking up parking spaces all day at the water access parks.

- Norriego Point is at the State level and should start construction in September after Labor Day.

- Hot Asphalt signs warning people of how hot it can get and how it can burn dog paws was shown to Council and how they backed them and want at least one down at the Boardwalk. It was mentioned one should be at the parking lot for the Dog Park too.

- **Public Comment:** None
- **Next meeting:** July 27, 2021

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 5:15

PM.

Adopted and approved this 27th day of July 2021.

Sandy Trammell
Sandy Trammell, Chairwoman

Kim Montgomery
Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk